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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Naoya Hasegawa et al.)
Serial No. To Be Assigned)
Filing Date: Herewith)
For: Exchange Coupling Film and)
Magnetoresistive Element Using the Same)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the obligation under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicants hereby submit references A1 - A2 listed on the attached form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed herewith.

Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 11-191647 discloses an exchange coupling film comprising a ferromagnetic layer and an antiferromagnetic layer comprising a Mn alloy containing a platinum group element. One of the layers has a crystal orientation. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 10-214716 discloses an exchange coupling film comprising a ferromagnetic layer and an antiferromagnetic layer comprising a Mn alloy containing a platinum group element. One of the layers has a crystal orientation.

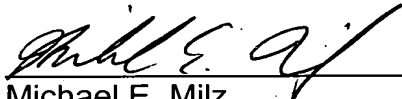
The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(b). Further, Applicants reserve the right to contest these references as prior art against the present application, and

Applicants do not believe that the disclosure of these references, even if finally determined to be prior art, anticipates Applicants' invention or that these references make Applicants' invention obvious.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to this material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the entire disclosure of these documents and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael E. Milz", is written over a horizontal line.

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